

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 were originally presented for consideration in this application. Claims 5, 18, 32 and 35 have previously been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 6-17, 19-31, 33, 34 and 36-45 are currently pending in this application.

The examiner's indications that claims 11-17, 19-31, 33, 34 and 36-41 are allowed, and that claims 10 and 43-45 contain allowable subject matter, are noted with appreciation.

Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 42 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0125008 to Wetzel, et al. Regarding independent claim 42, please note that this claim has been amended above. The claim now recites that the fluid loss control device selectively permits and prevents flow through the passage which extends through the assemblies. This feature of the invention is not described in the Wetzel reference. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claim 42.

Regarding the rejections of independent claim 1 and certain of its dependents, these rejections are respectfully traversed. Claim 1 recites, among other features, that a tubular string is inserted into a flow passage of a gravel packing assembly after the assembly is positioned in a wellbore, with a fiber optic line attached to the tubular string and extending within the passage. The Office Action states, in section 2, that the service tool 164 and screen 28 of Wetzel correspond to the recited tubular string and gravel packing assembly, and that the line 60 corresponds to the recited fiber optic line.

However, there is no description in Wetzel of the service tool 164 being inserted into a flow passage of the screen 28 after the screen is positioned in a wellbore. Thus, Wetzel does not anticipate claim 1.

Furthermore, Wetzel does not describe the line 60 extending into a passage into which the service tool 164 is inserted after the screen 28 is positioned in the wellbore. For this additional reason, Wetzel does not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claim 1 and its dependents.

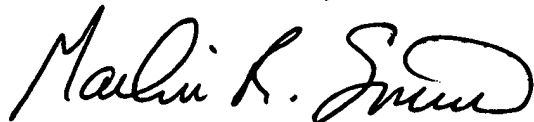
Note that claims 42-45 have been amended above to clarify which of the two fluid loss control devices recited in the claims are referred to in each of the claims.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all of the claims pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of claims 1-4, 6-17, 19-31, 33, 34 and 36-45 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 516-0030 if such would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlin R. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marlin" being the most prominent part.

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